

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. **(Currently Amended)** A web page acquisition service system, said system comprising:

a web page acquisition server and a plurality of user terminals ~~terminal, both of which are connected to~~ via a communication network[[,]] ;

wherein said ~~user terminal transmits~~ terminals transmit to said web page acquisition server user profiles and a web page acquisition requests ~~that includes~~ including various acquisition conditions;

wherein, according to the web page acquisition requests, said web page acquisition server generates an integrated web page acquisition list comprising non-overlapping web page acquisition requests ~~from a plurality of user terminals, said~~ integrated list further comprising:

a user name field;

a time field;

a URL field; and

a depth field;

wherein, in accordance with said ~~acquisition conditions included in said web page acquisition request received from said user terminal~~ integrated web page acquisition list and at least one predetermined scheduling rule, said web page acquisition server acquires a web page ~~source~~ sources from a web server on said communication network ~~and transmits said web page source to said user terminal; and~~

wherein said web page ~~source~~ sources ~~is~~ are formed into a library ~~file~~ files that, in accordance with said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests, is obtained and held in said web page acquisition server, ~~and is transmitted to said user terminal; and~~

wherein, when said web page acquisition server receives from the ~~plurality of user terminals~~ a plurality of web page acquisition requests for ~~the~~ a same web page source, said web page acquisition server obtains and archives, utilizing a single request to a web server ~~and~~ according to the integrated list, a corresponding web page source for said plurality of requests such that ~~a~~ the same web page source must be requested and obtained only once for the ~~plurality of user terminals, and transmits said web page source to said user terminals that issued said web page acquisition requests.~~

2. **(Currently Amended)** The web page acquisition service system according to claim 1,

wherein, as one of said acquisition conditions included in said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests, said ~~user terminal designates~~ terminals designate a time condition for the acquisition of a web page ~~source~~ sources; and

wherein, in accordance with said time condition designated in said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests, said web page acquisition server acquires said web page ~~source~~ sources and transmits said web page ~~source~~ sources to said ~~user terminal~~ terminals.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The web page acquisition service system according to claim 2,

wherein said web page acquisition server performs scheduling for the acquisition of a the web page source sources ~~[[,]] while taking into account according to~~ said time ~~condition~~ conditions ~~that is~~ designated in said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests and a current amount ~~equivalent to a volume of the~~ communication traffic carried by said communication network.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The web page acquisition service system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one predetermined scheduling rule comprises: acquiring web page sources for which an early download time has been set first; and acquiring web page sources within a time period during which communication traffic volume is small.

~~wherein, as one of said acquisition conditions included in said web page acquisition request, said user terminal designates a time limited period for the acquisition of a web page source; and~~

~~wherein, during said designated time limited period contained in said web page acquisition request, said web page acquisition server acquires and transmits, to said user terminal, said web page source.~~

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A provider ~~for providing~~ tangibly embodied in hardware to provide a service for the acquisition of an Internet connection, said provider comprising:

a request acceptance unit for accepting from a plurality of user terminals ~~user~~ user profiles and a web page acquisition requests that ~~includes a~~ including web page acquisition ~~condition~~ conditions, wherein said request acceptance unit generates an integrated web page acquisition list comprising non-overlapping web page acquisition requests from a the plurality of users, said integrated list further comprising:

a user name field;

a time field;

a URL field; and

a depth field;

a web page acquisition/archiving unit for obtaining a web page ~~source~~ sources from a web server and for archiving said web page ~~source~~ sources in accordance with said ~~web page acquisition condition included in said web page acquisition request~~ integrated web page acquisition list and at least one predetermined scheduling rule; and

a transmission control unit for, in accordance with said web page acquisition ~~condition~~ conditions transmitting said obtained web page ~~source~~ sources to the user terminals ~~who issued said web page acquisition request~~;

wherein said transmission control unit forms into a library ~~file~~ files said web page ~~source~~ sources that, in accordance with said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests, ~~is~~ are obtained and held in said web page acquisition/archiving unit, and transmits said library ~~file~~ files to said ~~user terminal~~ user terminals;

wherein, when said web page acquisition/archiving unit receives from the ~~plurality of user terminals~~ user terminals a plurality of web page acquisition requests for ~~the~~ a same web page source, said web page acquisition/archiving unit obtains and archives, utilizing a single request to a web server ~~and~~ according to the integrated list, a corresponding web page source for said plurality of requests such that ~~a~~ the same web page source must be requested and obtained only once for the plurality of users terminals, and transmits said same web page source to said ~~users~~ user terminals.

7. **(Cancelled)**

8. **(Currently Amended)** The provider according to claim 6, wherein when a limitation is placed on the size of a data file that ~~said a user terminal, which is a web page source transmission destination~~, can receive as a single transmission, said transmission control unit divides[[,]] into segments having an appropriate size for said user terminal[[,]] said web page source that is held in said web page acquisition/archiving unit[[,]] and forms said segments into library files.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The provider according to claim 6, wherein said transmission control unit changes a link for said web page source held by said web page acquisition/archiving unit from an absolute link[[,]] based on ~~the~~ a URL of a web page source[[,]] into a relative link.

10. **(Currently Amended)** A web page acquisition method employed by a web page acquisition server provided on a communication network, said method comprising the steps of:

accepting[[,]] from a plurality of user terminals[[, a]] web page acquisition requests ~~that includes a~~ including web page acquisition ~~condition~~ conditions;

generating an integrated web page acquisition list comprising non-overlapping web page acquisition requests from a ~~the plurality of users~~ terminals, the integrated list further comprising:

a user name field;

a time field;

a URL field; and

a depth field;

employing said ~~web page acquisition condition~~ integrated list and at least one predetermined scheduling rule to prepare a schedule for the acquisition of a web page ~~source~~ sources;

acquiring[[,]] across said communication network in accordance with said schedule[[,]] said web page ~~source~~ sources from ~~said a~~ a web server[[,]] and archiving said web page ~~source~~ sources; and

transmitting said web page ~~source~~ sources to said ~~user~~ terminals in accordance with said web page acquisition ~~condition~~ conditions included in said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests;

wherein said transmitting includes forming said web page ~~source~~ sources into a library ~~file~~ files that, in accordance with said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests, ~~is~~ are obtained and held in said web page acquisition server, and transmitting said library ~~file~~ files to said ~~user~~ terminals;

wherein, when said web page acquisition server receives from the ~~plurality of~~ ~~users~~ terminals a plurality of web page acquisition requests for ~~the a~~ a same web page source, said web page acquisition server obtains and archives, utilizing a single request to a web server and according to the integrated list, a corresponding web page source for said plurality of requests such that a the same web page source must be requested and obtained only once for the ~~plurality of users~~ terminals, and transmits said same web page source to said ~~users~~ terminals.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The web page acquisition method according to claim 10, wherein said step of preparing said schedule includes a step of:

determining, in accordance with a time ~~condition~~ conditions that ~~is~~ are included in said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests, and while taking into account a current

amount equivalent to a volume of the communication traffic across said communication network, the time at which to acquire said web page ~~source~~ sources designated in said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests, ~~and to thereby reduce whereby~~ the load imposed on said web page acquisition server is reduced.

12. **(Cancelled)**

13. **(Currently Amended)** A web page acquisition method, employed by an information terminal device connected to the Internet, comprising the steps of:

transmitting, ~~to a provider,~~ a web page acquisition requests in which web page acquisition conditions are designated;

generating an integrated web page acquisition list comprising non-overlapping web page acquisition requests from a plurality of users, the integrated list further comprising:

a user name field;

a time field;

a URL field; and

a depth field;

issuing a web page transmission ~~request~~ requests ~~to said provider~~ based on a time ~~condition~~ conditions that ~~is~~ are included in said web page acquisition conditions and at least one predetermined scheduling rule; and



receiving a web page ~~source~~ sources that, in accordance with said web page transmission ~~request~~ requests, ~~is~~ are transmitted ~~by said provider~~ and that ~~was~~ were acquired under conditions corresponding to those included in said web page acquisition conditions;

wherein said web page ~~source~~ sources ~~is~~ are formed into a library ~~file~~ files that, in accordance with said web page transmission ~~request~~ requests, ~~is~~ are transmitted to said information terminal device;

wherein, when said information terminal device receives from the plurality of users a plurality of web page acquisition requests for ~~the~~ a same web page source, said information terminal device obtains and archives, utilizing a single request to a web server and according to the integrated list, a corresponding web page source for said plurality of requests such that ~~a~~ the same web page source must be requested and obtained only once for the plurality of users, and transmits said same web page source to said users.

14. **(Currently Amended)** The web page acquisition method according to claim 13, wherein said step for issuing said web page transmission ~~request~~ requests includes a step of:

issuing, upon the receipt of ~~a~~ an E-mail notification indicating that a web page has been acquired by said ~~provider~~ information terminal device, said web page transmission ~~request~~ requests to said ~~provider~~ information terminal device, regardless of the time ~~condition~~ conditions that ~~is~~ are included in said web page acquisition conditions.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A storage medium on which computer input means can store a computer-readable program that permits said computer to perform:

a process for accepting, from a plurality of users ~~user~~, a web page acquisition requests ~~that includes a~~ including web page acquisition ~~condition~~ conditions;

a process for generating an integrated web page acquisition list comprising non-overlapping web page acquisition requests from a the plurality of users, the integrated list further comprising:

a user name field;

a time field;

a URL field; and

a depth field;

a process for employing said ~~web page acquisition request~~ integrated list and at least one predetermined scheduling rule to prepare a schedule for the acquisition of a web page ~~source~~ sources;

a process for acquiring, across said communication network in accordance with said schedule, said web page ~~source~~ sources from ~~said a~~ web server, and archiving said web page ~~source~~ sources; and

a process for transmitting said web page ~~source~~ sources to said ~~user~~ users in accordance with said web page acquisition ~~condition~~ conditions included in said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests;

wherein said process for transmitting includes forming web page ~~source~~ sources into a library ~~file~~ files that, in accordance with said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests, is are transmitted to said ~~user~~ users;

wherein, when a plurality of web page acquisition requests for ~~the~~ a same web page source is received from the plurality of users, a single request to a web server is utilized according to the integrated list for obtaining a corresponding web page source for said plurality of requests such that ~~a~~ the same web page source must be requested and obtained only once for the plurality of users, and said same web page source is transmitted to said users.

17. **(Currently Amended)** A program transmission apparatus comprising:

storage means for storing a computer-readable program that permits a computer to perform;

a process for accepting, from a plurality of users ~~user~~, a web page acquisition requests ~~that includes a~~ including web page acquisition ~~condition~~ conditions;

a process for generating an integrated web page acquisition list comprising non-overlapping web page acquisition requests from ~~a~~ the plurality of users, said integrated list further comprising:

a user name field;

a time field;

a URL field; and

a depth field;

a process for employing said ~~web page acquisition request~~ integrated list and at least one predetermined scheduling rule to prepare a schedule for the acquisition of a web page ~~source~~ sources,

a process for acquiring, across said communication network in accordance with said schedule, said web page ~~source~~ sources from said ~~a~~ web server, and archiving said web page ~~source~~ sources, and

a process for transmitting said web page ~~source~~ sources to said ~~user~~ users in accordance with said web page acquisition ~~condition~~ conditions included in said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests;

wherein said process for transmitting includes forming said web page ~~source~~ sources into a library ~~file~~ files that, in accordance with said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests, ~~is~~ are transmitted to said ~~user~~ users; and

transmission means for reading said program from said storage means and for transmitting said program;

wherein, when a plurality of web page acquisition requests for ~~the~~ a same web page source is received from the plurality of users, a single request to a web server is utilized according to the integrated list for obtaining a corresponding web page source for said plurality of requests such that a the same web page source must be requested and obtained only once for the plurality of users, and said same web page source is transmitted to said users.

18. **(Currently Amended)** A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for web page acquisition, said method comprising the steps of:

accepting, from a plurality of users ~~user~~, a web page acquisition requests that ~~includes~~ include a web page acquisition ~~condition~~ conditions;

generating an integrated web page acquisition list comprising non-overlapping web page acquisition requests from a the plurality of users, said integrated list further comprising:

a user name field;

a time field;

a URL field; and

a depth field;

employing said ~~web page acquisition condition~~ integrated list and at least one predetermined scheduling rule to prepare a schedule for the acquisition of a web page ~~source~~ sources;

acquiring, across said communication network in accordance with said schedule, said web page ~~source~~ sources from said web server, and archiving said web page ~~source~~ sources; and

transmitting said web page ~~source~~ sources to said ~~user~~ users in accordance with said web page acquisition ~~condition~~ conditions included in said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests;

wherein transmitting includes forming said web page ~~source~~ sources into a library ~~file~~ files that, in accordance with said web page acquisition ~~request~~ requests, ~~is~~ are ~~transmitting said library file~~ transmitted to said ~~user~~ users;

wherein, when a plurality of web page acquisition requests for ~~the~~ a same web page source is received from the plurality of users, a single request to a web server is utilized according to the integrated list for obtaining a corresponding web page source for said plurality of requests such that a web page source must be requested and obtained only once for the plurality of users, and said same web page source is transmitted to said users.

19. **(Currently Amended)** A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for web page acquisition, said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting, to a provider, a web page acquisition requests in which web page acquisition conditions are designated;

generating an integrated web page acquisition list comprising non-overlapping web page acquisition requests from a plurality of users, said integrated list further comprising:

a user name field;

a time field;

a URL field; and

a depth field;

issuing a web page transmission ~~request~~ requests to said provider based on a time condition that is included in said web page acquisition conditions and at least one predetermined scheduling rule; and

receiving a web page ~~source~~ sources that, in accordance with said web page transmission ~~request~~ requests, ~~is~~ are transmitted by said provider and that ~~was~~ were acquired under conditions corresponding to those included in said web page acquisition conditions;

wherein said web page ~~source~~ sources ~~is~~ are formed into a library ~~file~~ files that, in accordance with said web page transmission ~~request~~, ~~is~~ are transmitted to ~~said~~ an information terminal device;

wherein, when a plurality of web page acquisition requests for ~~the~~ a same web page source is received from the plurality of users, a single request to a web server is utilized according to the integrated list for obtaining a corresponding web page source for said plurality of requests such that ~~a~~ the same web page source must be requested and obtained only once for the plurality of users, and said same web page source is transmitted to said users.

20. **(Currently Amended)** The web page acquisition service according to claim 1,

wherein, said at least one predetermined scheduling rule ~~comprises the acquisition of a web page source occurring during a time period during which a volume of communication traffic is small~~ is dynamically updated when a web page source is acquired.